

MAR 14 1951

SHOULD
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General Walter Bedell Smith
Director of Central Intelligence
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Smith:

I have now received the written approval from each member of the Board of my letter of February 20, and its attached procedure for handling NSC-10/5 matters. We can, therefore, consider that the procedure is in effect.

You will recall that my letter of February 20 contained the following paragraph:

"One of the problems discussed in the consideration of the draft was that of obtaining, without undue delay, the information upon which the responsible Board member will be able to make the commitments called for under paragraph 5 of the procedure. It has been suggested that the Director might assist in making sure that all necessary steps are taken promptly. I am inclined to agree with this point of view, and if you have no objection, I will plan in those few cases where the circumstances warrant it formally to request a study by the appropriate department of the feasibility of providing the support required for any particular program or "major" project."

Implicit in this language was the thought that any program or major project which raises an important policy question would be treated by the Director in the same manner as provided above for determinations of feasibility. In order, however, to avoid all possible ambiguity, I think that it would be desirable to state that I may from time to time, acting on behalf of PSB, refer important questions, either of policy or feasibility, to the departments or to CIA for their recommendations.

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In accordance with Paragraph 1 of the approved procedure, I am designating my deputy, [redacted] of my staff, to be my representatives on the special Panel. I have asked [redacted] to act as chairman of the Panel.

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Sincerely yours,

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Director

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